

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  NORTHERN NATURAL GAS COMPANY	DOCKET NO. LRP-00-3
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**ORDER ACCEPTING LAND RESTORATION PLAN**

(Issued October 30, 2000)

On September 28, 2000, Northern Natural Gas Company (Northern) filed an agricultural land restoration plan with the Utilities Board (Board) as required by Iowa Code Supplement § 479.14(9), prior to initiation of pipeline construction. The plan has been identified as Docket No. LRP-00-3. No objections to the plan have been filed.

The plan filed by Northern includes four construction projects. The first project is the Ventura line-lowering project which involves the replacement and lowering of approximately 120' of 16" pipe known as the A-Line and the J-Line and is located in Worth County, Iowa. The Ventura line-lowering project is scheduled to begin on October 16, 2000. Most of the construction for the project will take place in an exposed drainage ditch with approximately 50' of agricultural land on each side of the ditch being disturbed.

The second project involves the installation of approximately 100' of 4" branchline off the existing DeWitt branchline to the new Maquoketa #2 TBS in

Jackson County, Iowa. Northern proposes to begin construction on the C-Line on or about October 23, 2000, and most of the construction will be on agricultural land.

The third project involves the relocation of a groundbed on agricultural land in Mills County, Iowa. Northern proposes to install 30 anodes, spaced approximately 15' apart. Northern also proposes to trench approximately 750' to allow for the installation of a new groundbed cable and trench approximately 25' for the negative cable. The construction will affect an area of 800' x 25'. Construction is scheduled to begin on or about October 23, 2000.

The fourth project involves installation of approximately 25' of 6" pipe, a 6"x12" reducer, 5' of 12" pipe, and removal of a 12" cap on existing pipe in Dallas County, Iowa. The purpose of the project is to tie two existing gas well lines together. Northern states that it has included the project in the plan even though it does not involve a substantial disturbance of the soil. Northern proposes to begin construction on the project on October 15, 2000.

Northern states that it will construct the four projects pursuant to its blanket certificate of public convenience and necessity granted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on or about September 1, 1982, in FERC Docket No. CP82-401-000. The projects will be constructed in accordance with the standards established by FERC's "Upland Erosion Control, Revegetation, and Maintenance Plan," Exhibit A to the filing. In addition, Northern states that it will not commence or continue construction on the projects in wet soil conditions at times

when, or locations where, the passage of construction equipment may cause rutting to the extent that topsoil and subsoil are mixed.

The Board has reviewed the plan for the four projects and Northern's agreement to stop construction during wet soil conditions and finds the filing adequately addresses the land restoration issues contained in Iowa Code Supplement § 479A.14(1). The Board will accept Northern's agricultural land restoration plan for the four projects.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

The agricultural land restoration plan filed by Northern Natural Gas Company on September 28, 2000, is accepted.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Raymond K. Vawter, Jr.      /s/ Diane Munns  
Executive Secretary

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 30<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2000.